

# UGA **RX**

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY MAGAZINE

F A L L 2 0 0 8

**Rick Allen:  
Being a  
GDNA Agent**

**Minocycline  
Study for  
Stroke Victims**

**Compounding  
Video Helps  
Students  
Learn**





Dear Friends,

In line with the impact that the economic downturn has had on individuals, we are seeing a dwindling revenue stream for the State. The shortfall for the year is currently predicted at \$2 billion and growing. A shortfall of this magnitude cannot be covered with the State's rainy day funds and we are bracing for budget cuts similar to those experienced by some of our neighboring states.

In August, the Governor mandated a 6% budget reduction in all state agencies, which includes us. Unfortunately, we are afraid that these mandated reductions will be insufficient to address the State's shortfall and that additional reductions will have to be made, further affecting the College.

Budget cuts are always problematic in universities as we have only limited control over how to apply the cuts. As the budget year progresses, additional reductions create additional hardships as they no longer can be distributed over a full academic year but must be taken against expenses earmarked for only a few months.

To protect our core mission and prevent the layoff of our dedicated faculty and staff, reductions are generally initially taken from vacancies and retirements or from allocations originally made for new initiatives, as these are funds that are not yet encumbered. These types of cuts are always problematic because they usually occur where we least likely can afford reductions. Realigning of resources to mitigate unequal distribution of reductions will occur when we have a little more time on our side. We can carry out retraining of staff and faculty and find more innovative ways of reducing operational costs. Because such realignments may take a few years to accomplish, I hope our students, our faculty and you will be patient with us as we readjust and work to strengthen areas where weaknesses have opened up in the wake of the budget reductions.

Another very unfortunate effect of the current recession and market downturn is the erosion in the value of our endowments, many of which are now showing investment values below the initial gift. Because we cannot by contractual agreement spend funds from endowments that are below the initial gift, we expect to see a significant drop in the number of scholarships we will be able to provide. Although we will, to a limited degree, be able to backfill the shortfall with discretionary funds, it will necessitate a reduction in other areas of discretionary spending.

Despite the financial woes outlined above, we do have some things to be thankful for, and I am optimistic about the future. We have a wonderful new building coming on line, we have hired a number of new and exciting young faculty who will help us to usher in a new era for pharmacy, we continue to plan for expanding our regional presence as well as our residency training opportunities. But most of all, I am optimistic because you, our alumni, have been such strong supporters of the College and our students. You have responded in a phenomenal fashion to our fundraising activities, and it is your continued support that will greatly benefit our students through tough times. 🍷

Thank you and goooooo Dawgs.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Svein Øie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning and a distinct "S" at the end.

Svein Øie, Dean

# UGARX

in this issue



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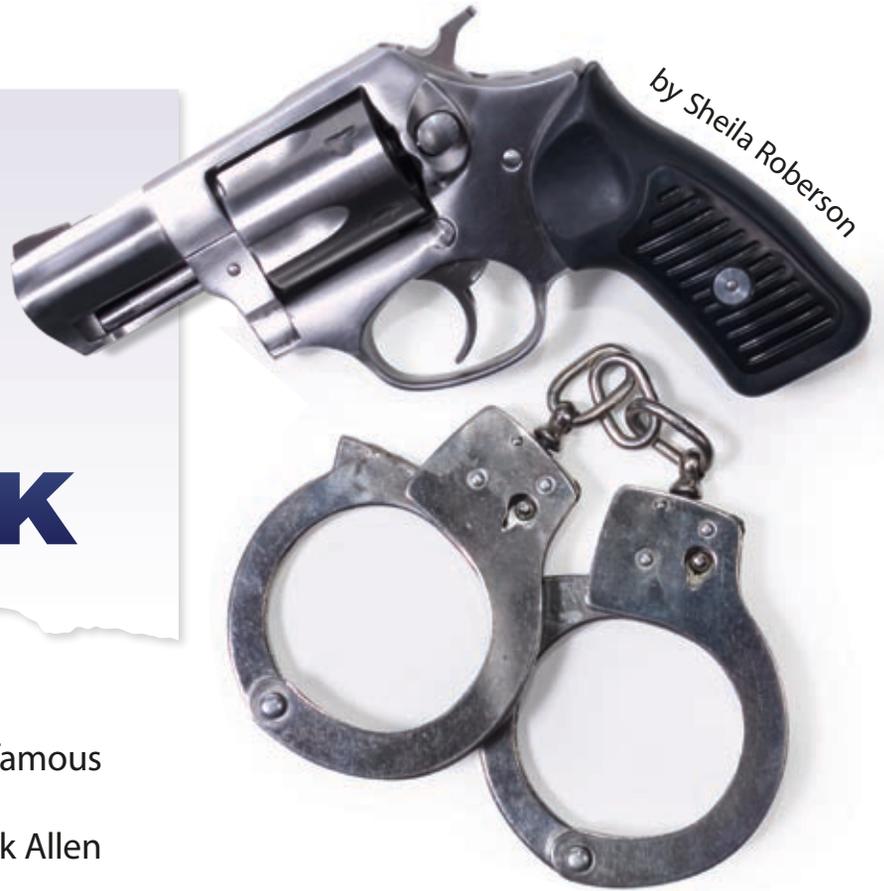
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THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
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# Rick Allen: Speak softly AND CARRY A **BIG STICK**

by Sheila Roberson



President Teddy Roosevelt's famous slogan could easily apply to Rick Allen

('74), deputy director of the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency.

His cautious, non-aggressive nature is backed up by the GDNA badge and the gun

he carries when it becomes necessary to bring

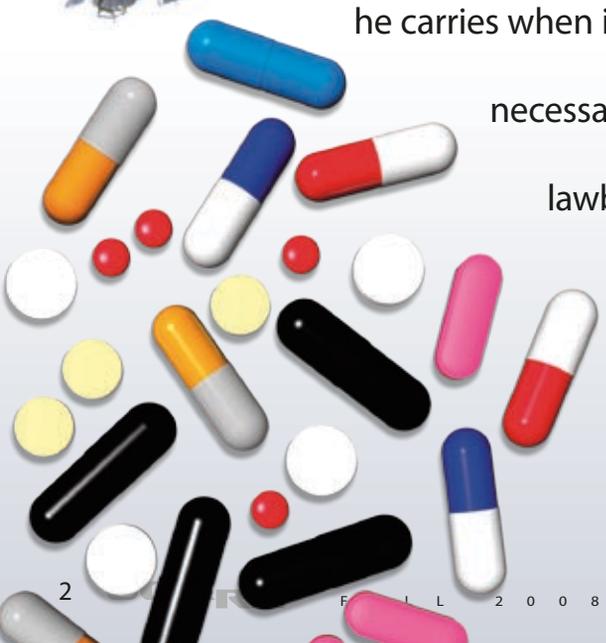
lawbreakers to justice.

Like many pharmacy school graduates, Allen started his career along a traditional path; he worked as a soda jerk and as an intern at a local pharmacy during school and then as a hospital pharmacist after graduation. As it happened, Allen said, GDNA agents came to the hospital pharmacy to investigate a report of missing drugs. Allen became intrigued with their work and was also getting tired of working in the windowless basement of the hospital. The agency had a job opening and six months later, in 1976, Allen moved to Macon as a GDNA drug inspector.

"My father had been in the construction business so I was used to being outdoors," he said. "I really didn't like being cooped up inside. Being a GDNA agent seemed much more interesting and would still allow me to use my education."

## Regulation and Enforcement

GDNA is an independent law enforcement agency within the state government that works closely with the State Board of Pharmacy, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Customs Service and other law enforcement agencies. GDNA agents are graduates of the state police academy and are authorized to investigate all controlled substance and prescription drug-related problems, whether involving pharmacists who are impaired through drug or alcohol use, or legal issues such as Medicaid fraud or stealing and selling drugs.





Allen has personally made more than 1,000 arrests and has witnessed a wide range of encounters dealing with the misuse of drugs and narcotics, from the pharmacist who trades drugs for sex or sells narcotics out the back door of his pharmacy, to the physician who gets pulled over for speeding with a blood alcohol level three times over the legal limit and a trunkload of prescription drug samples.

“Enforcing the state’s drug laws is an exciting and sometimes dangerous business. I’ve been shot at, threatened with bodily harm and chased by dogs,” he said, adding that working with the State Board of Pharmacy to apprehend a lawbreaker and then help reinstate someone’s suspended license can be the most heartbreaking and the most rewarding part of his job.

“Right now we have 40 to 50 who have lost their licenses due to drugs or alcohol and another 10 to 20 involved in legal issues. It’s really sad to see a pharmacist or a physician throw away his career through bad judgment. It not only affects them, but their families and their profession,” he said. “Those who enter rehabilitation programs can generally turn their lives around.”

“Fortunately almost 99 percent of those impaired for the first time get their licenses re-instated within six months,” said Allen, who is involved in preparing reinstatement materials for the State Board of Pharmacy. “Second offenders lose their licenses for one to two years; after that there is no reinstatement. For those involved in a legal case, such as fraud, there is no reinstatement after the first offense.”

### **Drug Legislation and Information**

Allen’s work is not all about carrying a gun and arresting the bad guys; he spends countless hours researching questions about the state’s drug laws. As an agent of the regulatory arm of the State Board of Pharmacy, he answers queries about issues such as compounding prescriptions, record keeping, prescription mistakes, and ethics; he is also present during state licensing exams and has taken part in overseeing and grading the wet practical section of the exam.

“You could not do this job without being a pharmacist and knowledge of pharmacy law is mandatory. We even have attorneys who call us with legal questions about pharmacy or

drugs," said Allen, who routinely testifies before the state legislature about the annual updated drug list that he helps prepare.

"Georgia is the only state in the country that requires an annual update on dangerous drugs," he said. "Believe it or not, the process of preparing this list and passing it into law can take up to four months. We spend days at the state capitol just talking with lobbyists and representatives about drugs and drug laws."

Allen also lectures extensively throughout the country, including periodic presentations to pharmacy students about drug diversion, black market drugs, drugs of abuse and drug-related law enforcement issues they may encounter once they enter the profession.

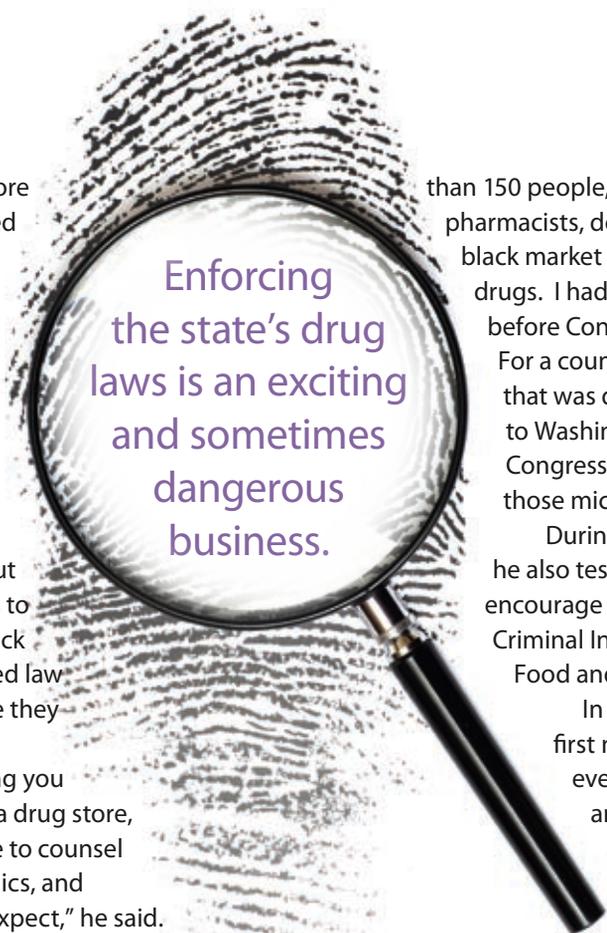
"With students I cover just about anything you could imagine that pharmacists would do in a drug store, even teach them how to use their knowledge to counsel a patient. We get involved in legal issues, ethics, and impairment and we try teach them what to expect," he said.

### Career Highlights

Allen recalls several noteworthy events during his 32-year career, highlights that are far removed from the everyday events in the lives of most pharmacists.

In 1992, the same year he was named GDNA's Deputy Director, Allen was featured in a Dateline-NBC segment on drug diversion; the program was hosted by Brian Ross who hailed Allen as one of the country's leading experts in the field of black market prescription drugs. This distinction was made after Allen had spent five years, from 1983 to 1988, working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Justice Department during a black market prescription drug investigation. Codenamed "Operation Pharmoney," the investigation led to the drafting of the Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987 (PDMA), which made it illegal to sell drug samples.

"For two years we worked undercover, traveling to 36 states" Allen said. "We wound up getting convictions on more



Enforcing  
the state's drug  
laws is an exciting  
and sometimes  
dangerous  
business.

than 150 people, including wholesalers, pharmacists, doctors, whoever, for dealing black market samples and black market drugs. I had to testify in Washington before Congress four different times. For a country boy from Georgia, that was quite an experience, going to Washington and sitting in a Congressional hearing room with all those microphones in front of you."

During that same time period he also testified before Congress to encourage creation of the Office of Criminal Investigations in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

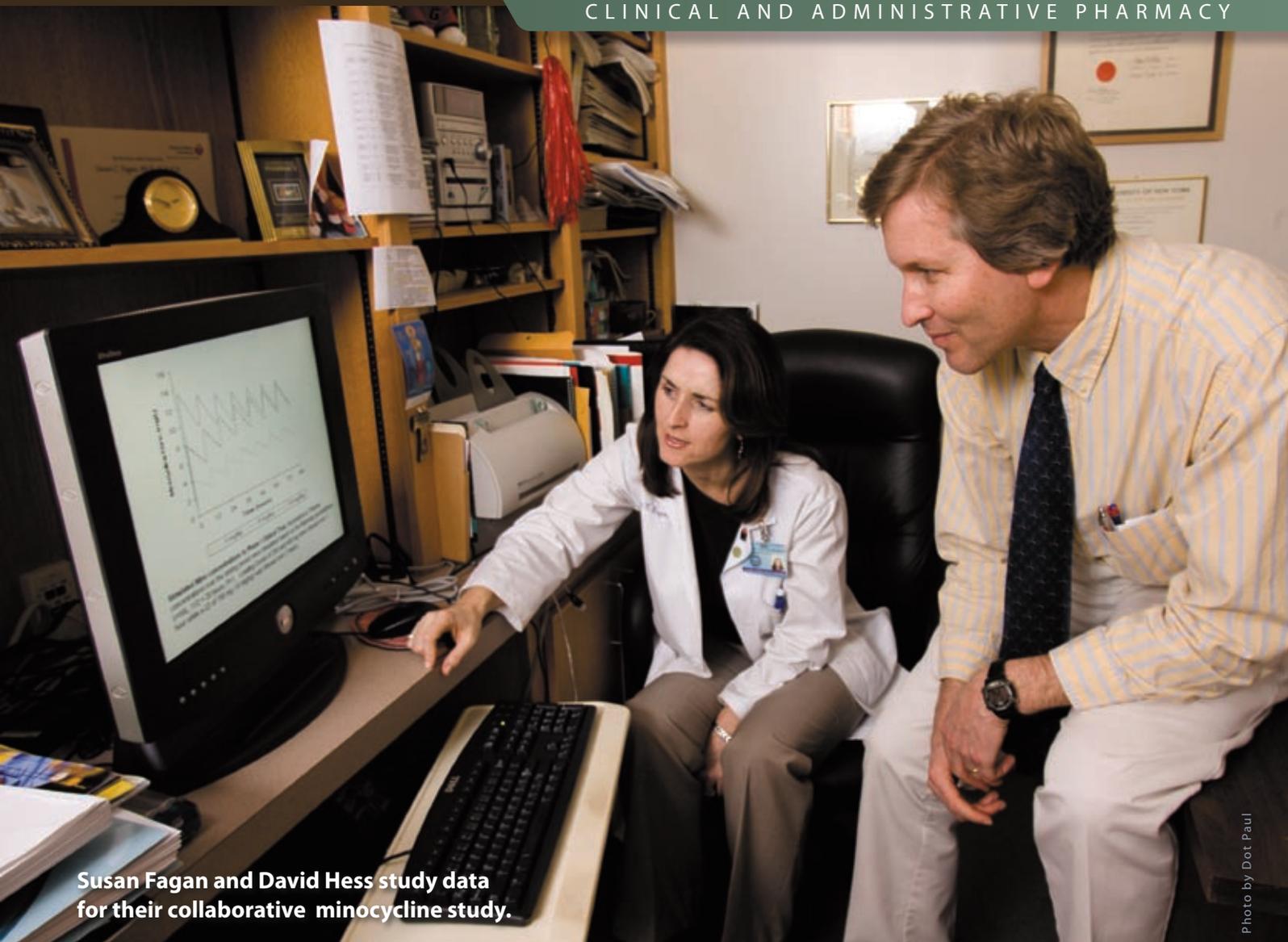
In 1993 Allen became the first non-FBI special agent ever permitted to serve as an instructor and special agent evaluator for the FBI Special Agent Undercover Training and Certification Courses, held at the FBI

Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

"One of the more enjoyable highlights of my career was being part of the Dignitary Protection Group during the 1996 Olympics games in Atlanta," he said. "I was assigned by Governor Zell Miller to serve as the personal security agent for Princess Cristina of Spain and to assist the Spanish Special Security throughout their visit to Atlanta."

Allen has received numerous awards and honors during his career. But mainly his satisfaction with his work comes from knowing that many years ago he made the right career choice.

"Since no two days are alike, I like the flexibility and variety of my work and the mental challenge," said Allen, adding that being a GDNA officer has allowed him to use his education to help pharmacists throughout the profession of pharmacy. 🐾



Susan Fagan and David Hess study data for their collaborative minocycline study.

Photo by Dot Paul

## ▶ Old antibiotic may find new life as a stroke treatment

by Toni Baker, Director of Media Relations, Medical College of Georgia

*An old intravenous antibiotic may have new life as a stroke treatment, say researchers at the Medical College of Georgia and the University of Georgia's College of Pharmacy. Clinical trials are being conducted at MCG with a \$1.8 million grant from the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke.*



Minocycline appears to reduce stroke damage in multiple ways – inhibiting white blood cells and enzymes that, at least acutely, can destroy brain tissue and blood vessels, respectively, says David Hess, chair of MCG’s Department of Neurology. The broad-spectrum antibiotic also seems to reduce cell suicide in the minutes and hours following a stroke, enabling more cells to recover.

He and co-investigator Susan Fagan, a professor in the College’s Department of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy and assistant dean for the College’s Clinical Pharmacy Program at MCG, are leading a clinical trial that will study the drug in 60 stroke patients in Georgia, Kentucky and Oregon. They believe the antibiotic will be a safe, effective adjunct therapy for tPA (tissue plasminogen activator), the only FDA-approved drug therapy for strokes.

“It’s a safe drug that is easy to give and tolerate, that gets into the brain well, and may reduce bleeding, the primary side effect of tPA,” says Hess, principal investigator on the \$1.8 million National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke-funded clinical trial. “We think it will make strokes smaller and patient outcomes better,” Hess adds.

Their animal studies have shown the drug, given within six hours of a stroke, then every 12 hours for up to three days – the peak time of inflammation – reduces stroke damage by up to 40 percent. “We know it’s safe in humans and we know that the concentrations we need in order to see improvement in the brains of rats can be achieved safely in humans,” says Fagan. “That’s an important consideration.”

The drug’s safety and optimal stroke dose are the primary focus of the phase-one clinical trial in stroke patients who arrive within six hours of symptom onset and with measurable neurological symptoms.

“We are going to be drawing samples from patients to make sure we achieve the concentrations that we want in the blood, plus we want to define the half-life in stroke patients to see if it’s different than in the younger patients who take it for other reasons,” says Fagan.

Newer intravenous antibiotics have replaced minocycline in the United States, but an oral version is used to treat conditions such as acne and rheumatoid arthritis.

“If the half-life is longer, we can give it less frequently. We are really fine-tuning the dose,” she says. They’ll do this by looking in the blood for biomarkers,

or indicators of inflammation, to see if inflammatory factors go up after three days. “It may give us a clue that we should treat patients longer,” says Fagan, a co-investigator on the studies leading to minocycline’s use in rheumatoid arthritis.

One way minocycline fights inflammation is by inhibiting microglial cells, white blood cells activated by a stroke, says Hess. “When they get activated, they get angry and produce materials that damage the brain. The inflammatory cascade is bad and good. Early on it’s bad, later on it may actually do some good things,” he says. Typically these microglial cells are sentinel immune cells for the brain, helping eliminate infections and secreting factors that support neurons. However, acutely in a stroke, brain tissue can become their target. “They are basically cleaning house at first, then later, they are supportive, releasing growth factors and promoting the growth of new blood vessels,” adds Fagan.

Minocycline also blocks matrix metallo-proteinases (MMP), also released during stroke, which destroy the basement membrane of blood vessels. The presence of these enzymes also is a mixed bag. “If you want angiogenesis – you want to make new blood vessels – you need MMPs around to get rid of the old ones, like tearing down an old building to build a new one,” says Hess. However, in patients lucky enough to get the clot buster tPA, the enzyme increases the major risk factor: bleeding. Hess notes that while this initial clinical trial is in ischemic strokes, he thinks minocycline also may be useful in hemorrhagic strokes, which account for about 12 percent of strokes, where clearly blocking MMPs would come in handy.

Minocycline also works by blocking apoptosis, or cell suicide, an observation originally made by MCG Cell Biologist Zheng Dong. “It does this by increasing a protein called bcl-2, which helps cells survive,” says Hess.

The antibiotic’s potential usefulness in protecting brain cells began surfacing in scientific literature within the last few years. “It was so interesting to us because we knew that a lot of the limitations of other drugs that had been tried in

## THE JOWDY PROFESSORSHIP

rodents but didn't work in stroke patients were that they didn't cross into the brain," Fagan says. "We knew what minocycline did based on previous experiments and the fact that many people who take it for acne or rheumatoid arthritis get dizzy. So we were encouraged by this.

"We wanted something we could give at least three hours after stroke or later. In our studies in animal models, we found at delayed time intervals it was profoundly neuroprotective," says Fagan. "We studied it at multiple time points at multiple doses and, in fact, some of the most important work we did was finding out how the rodent dose really could be translated to humans," she says, referencing work published in *Experimental Neurology* in 2004. 🐹

**Dr. Susan Fagan** has become the new Albert W. Jowdy Professor of Pharmacy Care. She is Professor and Associate Head of the Department of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy at the College of Pharmacy and also Assistant Dean for the College's Clinical Pharmacy Program at the Medical College of Georgia.

Fagan is dedicated to student development and has a distinguished scholarship and service record. She is well recognized nationally in pharmacy and medicine, is active at the state level, has an independently funded clinical research program, and mentors fellow faculty and graduate and professional students. She provides advanced pharmacy care services to cardiovascular and cerebrovascular patients as a key member of a multi-disciplinary health care team.

Established in 2001 in honor of the late Professor Emeritus Albert W. Jowdy, who retired in 1985 as Head of the Department of Pharmacy Care Administration, the professorship promotes excellence in pharmacy care through instruction and scholarship. Jowdy was especially recognized for his keen interest in students, his outstanding teaching and his superb mentorship. His achievements, both as a student advocate and researcher in pharmacy care administration are nationally known.

This professorship recognizes a faculty member who has demonstrated a genuine interest in students, has an outstanding teaching record with a commitment to stimulate student curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking, and has a distinguished scholarship and/or service record in pharmacy care.



Photo by Dot Paul

**Susan Fagan discusses procedures with two members of her lab team, Livia Machado and Hazem Elewa. Lab members not pictured are Anna Kozak, Chris Johnson, and Daniel Wiley.**

# Lights, Camera, Action

by Sheila Roberson



Deborah Strong, a clinical assistant professor in the College's Department of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences, has written, directed, gained funding for, and starred in her own video. Although it probably won't be nominated for an Oscar, the 15-session instructional video should prove to be an invaluable teaching tool for pharmacy students learning to compound medications.

"Compounding is gaining importance again in pharmacy," Strong noted. "Years ago the art of compounding was fading due to the manufacture of so many medications. Now the trend toward individualized patient care extends to individualized medications that will improve patient compliance and therapeutic outcomes."

With funding support from the White Academic Support Fund, the Morris Pharmacy Practice Support Fund and the Eckerd Endowed Fund in Pharmacy Practice, Strong contacted UGA's Office of Instructional Support and Development to enlist their expertise to produce the continuous-feed instructional video. Using a script that Strong had written, they began filming earlier this year, with Strong demonstrating 15 basic compounding techniques used in her department's Pharmaceutical Skills Lab courses. The demonstrations, ranging from one to four minutes in length, cover such topics as suppositories, gelatin capsules, dilutions, pulverization, and trituration, i.e., grinding a solid into a fine powder. Sound and graphics emphasize the important points, she said.

"I don't know of any other pharmacy school that has developed a teaching video quite like ours," said Strong. "Our filming was done from the vantage point of the person preparing the compound, not from the viewpoint of the observer. I thought this perspective would work best for teaching students exactly how to do the procedures."

**Deborah Strong grinds a solid medication in preparation for a video demonstration.**

Second year students returning to class this fall will be the first to experience this new teaching tool; in the spring both first and second year students will be able to use the video. In the beginning students will only have access to the video online through UGA's webCT; they will be required to view the video as a course requirement to reinforce compounding skills and supplement classroom instruction. Graduate students who teach in the Skills lab, Strong noted, will also use the video as a training tool to assist instruction.

The idea for the video came from students who suggested that their large classes impaired their ability to adequately see what Strong was demonstrating in class.

"With the increased class size and the modifications in our curriculum, we wanted to be sure that students are acquiring the skills they need. It's one thing to tell a classroom of 125-132 students how to make a suppository, but it's another to make sure they understand the process when they're in the Skills lab. Sometimes it's difficult for lab students to get close enough to see and understand exactly what's going on, even when they've heard it beforehand" she said. "The video will become a visual teaching aid that they can access before lab classes at their own convenience and during lab, if needed."

"I'm looking forward to learning how well the video is received by the students," said Strong, who doesn't expect perfection from her first-time effort. "Based on their critique we may have to alter a few things before we make it available to

others interested in learning about compounding. We want to make sure that all the skills we teach are understandable and accurate."

She hopes to work with faculty in her department and in the Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy department to develop a library of videos on various technical procedures that students can access for any course.

"For example, a video on sterile products preparation taught in the clinical curriculum would definitely enhance student learning," she said.

"Since pharmacists are the only healthcare professionals allowed to compound medications, they may need to brush up on their compounding skills to meet the emerging demand," she said. "Our new video can help." 📺



Recently three College of Pharmacy students attended a two-day training class in advanced compounding in Houston, sponsored by the Professional Compounding Centers of America, Inc. (PCCA). Third-year students Rebecca Davis, Vinnie Do and Berry Ivey were among the 45 students chosen to attend from pharmacy schools throughout the United States and Canada.

The training course provided an overview of the pharmaceutical art of compounding designed to enhance and complement pharmacy school curriculum. "I really felt like our curriculum prepared us well for the training camp," said Davis. "We prepared exceptional products each time and were often among the first to finish. I think we had a good fundamental basis for compounding. The training allowed us to further enhance our compounding skills."

The students learned to compound gels, lip balms, lollipops, troches, topical and transdermal formulations, suppositories and capsules in PCCA's state-of-the-art training lab. Each student also had the opportunity to taste test many of the different flavoring agents available. In addition to time spent in the lab, students also participated in classroom lectures, covering a variety of topics including quality assurance, legal issues and patient case studies.

"The practice of compounding brings a new meaning to individualized medicine. It gives the pharmacist the opportunity to take into account every patient's unique needs and to prepare a product that is best suited for each patient," said Ivey.

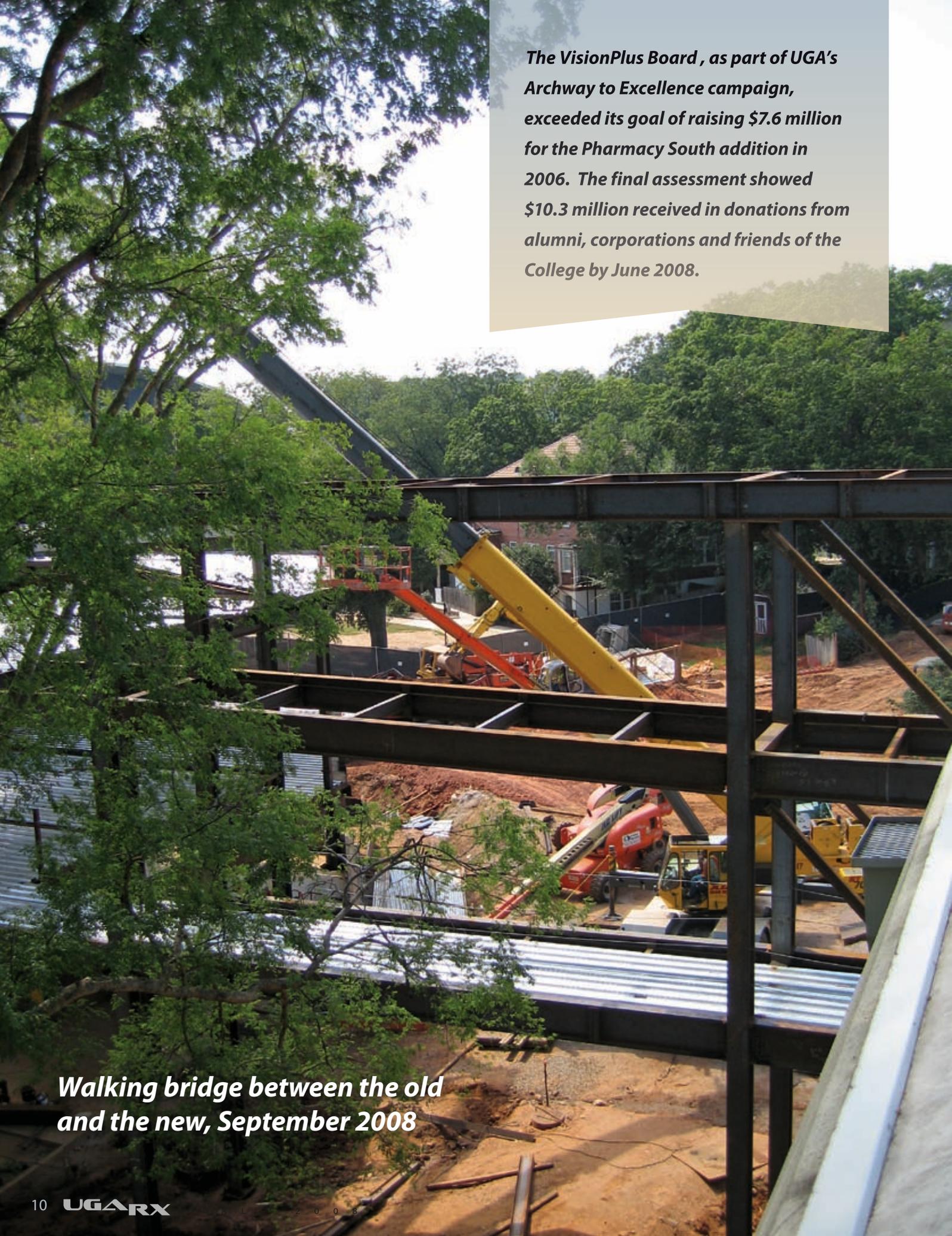
PCCA Institute Vice President Bill Letendre said, "PCCA Institute's compounding training is designed to provide students with a better understanding of prescription



**Lollipops anyone? Vinnie Do, Rebecca Davis and Berry Ivey show off the medication lollipops they created in the PCCA Institute's compounding lab.**

compounding and its positive impact on pharmaceutical care. Compounding is essential to today's community pharmacist in order to solve unique patient problems he or she encounters on a daily basis. With the growing demand for customized medications, pharmacists need to be trained in the formulation of contemporary dosage forms to help their patients attain a positive therapeutic outcome."

— Berry Ivey



*The VisionPlus Board , as part of UGA's Archway to Excellence campaign, exceeded its goal of raising \$7.6 million for the Pharmacy South addition in 2006. The final assessment showed \$10.3 million received in donations from alumni, corporations and friends of the College by June 2008.*

***Walking bridge between the old and the new, September 2008***

## Bill Wade – First Kroger Professor

**D**r. William “Bill” Wade has been named the first Kroger Professor in Community Pharmacy at the College of Pharmacy. Funded by a \$250,000 endowment from the Kroger Company and renewable after five years, the Kroger Professorship was established to promote excellence in community pharmacy through instruction, research, public service or a combination of such duties.

“The Kroger Company is engaged in community pharmacy, primarily in retail settings, and is interested in expanding the traditional role of pharmacy in this environment,” said Svein Øie, dean of the College of Pharmacy. “Special consideration was given to the professorship candidate who is involved in widening the scope of practice in community pharmacy in the retail setting, improving pharmacy services and/or engaging in preparing students for careers in community pharmacy.”

As a professor in the Department of Clinical and Administrative Pharmacy with an outstanding national reputation, Wade best exemplifies the criteria required for the professorship, according to the professorship committee. During his 30-year career at the College he has emphasized improvement in patient care through community practice initiatives. In the 1990s Wade helped develop the Clinical Outcomes Research Group in order to conduct pharmaceutically related research in community pharmacies, in

such areas as diabetes, cardiovascular disorders, pulmonary diseases, psychological disorders, and infectious diseases. In 2002 he collaborated on a cancer awareness certificate course for community pharmacists in order to help them identify patients at high risk for developing common cancers and to refer these patients for appropriate screening.

Wade has sustained excellence in the training and preparing of students for community pharmacy practice by emphasizing disease states initiatives to improve patient care. He also has been actively involved in the development, implementation and completion of the community pharmacy practice residency program. Wade has held leadership positions within his department and serves as a role model to students and practitioners with regard to moral and ethical ideals, as well as fostering collaboration among individuals.

The Kroger Professorship will provide salary support, research or teaching assistance, travel expenses, memberships and other expenses that enhance the effectiveness of the professorship.



**William Wade**

## Jane Henney Presents Kenneth L. Waters Lecture

**Jane Henney, M.D.**, presented the College of Pharmacy’s 2008 Kenneth L. Waters Lecture, “Challenges in Health – An Agenda for All,” in October. Henney is a professor at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine and a former commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. She has served as a senior health policy leader in the public sector for nearly three decades.

The Kenneth L. Waters Lecture Series began in 1982 to honor the late Dean Emeritus Kenneth L. Waters, dean of the College from 1948 until his retirement in 1977. The purpose of the lecture series is to bring nationally and internationally known leaders in pharmacy to the UGA campus and to recognize Waters’ outstanding accomplishments and contributions as dean.



**Dr. Jane Henney receives a julep cup from Dean Svein Øie, a gift that is traditionally presented to Waters lecturers.**



**Dr. Henry Bussey and Dean Emeritus Howard Ansel**

## Pharmacotherapy Specialist is Keynote Speaker at Ansel Symposium

**Henry Bussey** (’71), professor of pharmacotherapy at the University of Texas at Austin, was the keynote speaker at the College’s fifth annual Howard C. Ansel Symposium. He spoke on the future of anticoagulation practices. Bussey’s research is clinically focused and he was instrumental in the adoption of the INR for warfarin monitoring in North America. He is a Fellow of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy, the American College of Chest Physicians and the American Heart Association and its Council on High Blood Pressure Research.

The Ansel Symposium was established five years ago as part of the College’s 2003 Centennial Celebration to honor Dean Emeritus Howard C. Ansel for his notable contributions to pharmacy education and his ongoing support of the pharmacy profession. Ansel was dean of the College of Pharmacy from 1977 to 1991 and the College’s first Panoz Professor of Pharmacy.

## College of Pharmacy Welcomes Class of 2012



**All in the Family** – Thomas (Tommy) Bryan Jr. ('80), Marguerite (Maggie) Bryan and Thomas Bryan Sr. ('53), all from St. Simons Island, were among the 600+ pharmacy students and family members who attended the College of Pharmacy's White Coat Day ceremony and luncheon at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education. The College welcomed 131 new students as the Class of 2012, the largest class of students in the last decade.

The annual ceremony, in which students receive the white lab coats that mark the profession, featured Jim Bracewell, executive vice president and chief executive officer of the Georgia Pharmacy Association as keynote speaker. Alumna and Athens pharmacist

Michelle Freeman ('88) represented Kroger Pharmacy as sponsor of the event.

Alumnus Rick Allen ('74), deputy director of Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency, gave opening remarks and was among the seven members of the College's Alumni Council who helped the incoming students receive their white coats. The other alumni attending were Walt Rogers ('84), Council president; Neil Wohlford (95), president-elect; Amy Miller ('91), District III; John Drew ('93), District IV; Karen Deen ('74), District V; and Patricia Knowles ('84), District VI.

### The Class of 2012

Number of entering students	131
Average GPA	3.64
Average PCAT	88th percentile
Females	64 %
Minorities	35 %
Georgia residents	98 %
B.S. degree or higher	29%
At least one pre-pharmacy course at UGA	54%

## Pharmacy Fraternities Receive National Recognition

Phi Delta Chi professional pharmacy fraternity (PDC) and Kappa Psi pharmaceutical fraternity earned top awards this summer for chapter performance.

At PDC's Leader Development Seminar more than 300 pharmacy students from 60 PDC chapters across the country assembled to learn leadership skills. UGA's Alpha Iota chapter, represented by PDC president Robert Brady, Merinda Mason and Michelle Li, received third place awards in two categories – service and professional projects, and window display – and a fourth place award for the chapter's annual publication, "The Crucible."

The service and professional projects category included organizing food boxes for the Northeast Georgia Food Bank and the AIDS Athens pantry, raising \$4,000 for Relay for Life and \$1,000 for St. Jude's Children Hospital, and hosting bingo parties for senior citizens at Morningside Community in Athens.

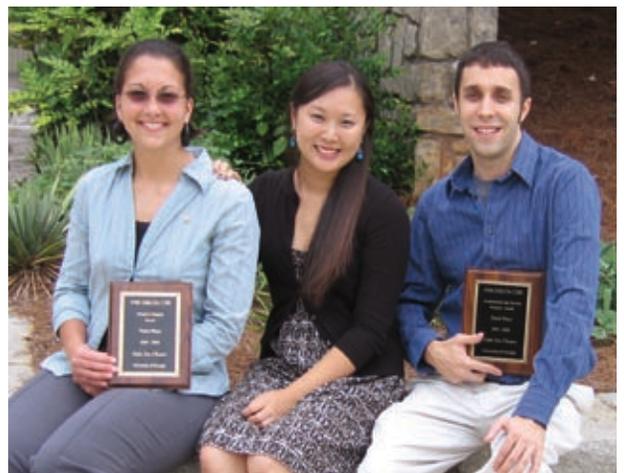
Also entered in that category was the chapter's weekly Rx Radio, which is broadcast on the University of Georgia station WUOG 90.5 FM. The talk show

format offers information on such topics as sexual health, flu, diet and exercise, breast cancer, diabetes, allergies and HIV/AIDS. Other projects presented in the competition included a display on sexual health at "Dawgtoberfest: Rx for Good Health," the College's annual health fair, and a medication therapy management (MTM) program at an area nursing home.

Behind-the-counter drugs was the topic of the window display category, which was evaluated by regional officers attending the seminar. The display was presented at local pharmacies along with promotional materials describing the College's Behind-the-Counter drug class. Judging for this category was based on creativity, message presented, relevance to pharmacy and the quality of the display.

The Gamma Phi Chapter of Kappa Psi Pharmaceutical

Fraternity, Inc. was ranked 6th best overall Kappa Psi chapter in the country in 2008. The rankings for the 73 national collegiate chapters of Kappa Psi are presented annually at the end of July. The ranking is based on a point system requiring chapters to complete numerous national as well as local projects throughout the year.



**PDC members Merinda Mason, Michelle Li and Robert Brady, PDC president**

# YOUNG DAWGS

High schoolers spend their summer working at the College of Pharmacy

By Sara Freeland, UGA News Service, and Sheila Roberson

**D**eniqua Mitchell didn't exactly expect to spend her summer dissecting lab rats. When the Cedar Shoals High School sophomore learned she would be working at the College of Pharmacy as part of the Young Dawgs summer apprenticeship program, she thought it would be more like working at one of the local drugstores than doing the clerical and other lab-related tasks supervisor and mentor Vivia Hill-Silcott assigned her. Still, she said the rat dissection was her favorite part of the eight-week pilot program, where she learned to file articles, enter data and plan a luncheon.

Designed to teach job skills to local students, the Young Dawgs program partnered UGA with area high schools to place 21 students, incoming high school freshmen through juniors, in jobs across campus ranging from scanning faculty correspondence from the 1970s to repairing computers.

In its first year at UGA, the Young Dawgs program is part of the Junior Youth Apprenticeship Program (JYAP), which began three years ago as a partnership between the Clarke County School District and Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services. The initiative began to help reduce the dropout rate in Clarke County schools and help students build their résumés, according to Kent Kilpatrick, interim director of ACC Leisure Services and one of the program's founders.



Photo by Peter Frey

**Hagen Huggs (left) and Deniqua Mitchell, students at Cedar Shoals High School in Athens, participated in the Junior Youth Apprenticeship program at the College of Pharmacy.**

"We really wanted to make an impact on teen's lives and prepare them for the future," Kilpatrick said. For many of the students, who were upcoming freshmen through juniors at the county high schools, it was their first job. They learned about punctuality, professionalism and some even learned how to use a typewriter.

Most of the students learned basic clerical skills, including filing and copying, but depending on their specific departments, students learned everything from graphic design to handling chemicals.

Hagen Huggs, a junior at Cedar Shoals High School, also worked in the College of Pharmacy.

"Had it not been for this program, many of us would have sat at home for eight weeks with nothing to do," he said at the program's closing ceremony luncheon. "I feel like this was a once in a lifetime chance," he said. "I cannot reiterate how invaluable this summer has been. I feel truly blessed by this opportunity."

Hill-Silcott, the College of Pharmacy's diversity coordinator, was a featured speaker at the luncheon.

"I believe that mentoring youth, especially minority youth, is an investment imperative, as many minority students do not have access to social and academic enrichment summer programs," she said.

"Our students, Hagen and Deniqua, had no interest in sciences prior to their summer apprenticeship. Now they have that interest

and have begun to ask questions about becoming a scientist or a pharmacist."

The investment of time by pharmacy faculty and staff to teach and interact with the JYAP students was not only valuable but necessary. The advantages for the students is that they now have UGA faculty and staff references, resume building work experience and exposure to several career options, she added.

And if learning valuable job skills weren't enough, the students earned minimum wage, funded by grants from Georgia Department of Labor, the Junior League of Athens, the Clarke County School District and Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services department.

Tom Gausvik, associate vice president for Human Resources, said that he was glad that UGA could get involved with the community through this program.

"We're looking at our future," he said. "We're going to retire half of our employees within the next 10-15 years and from a business standpoint we want to make sure we have qualified workers. So one way to do that is increase the graduation rate in our local school district. This program helps build on that. Plus it's a fun thing to do."

The program will continue in the fall, when high school juniors and seniors will work half a day for course credit. Currently, Human Resources is working on placing 40 students in departments across campus based on their career interests.

## A Word From Neil Wohlford ('95)

### Alumni Association President



*J*ohn Maxwell once said, "You are most valuable where you add the most value."

We each want to be valuable in all of our relationships. We want to increase our "value" as pharmacists, spouses and parents. We would like to be the MVP of all that we endeavor to achieve. So, how is it working out for you?

As pharmacists we naively begin our careers with great aspirations. My personal plan was to be the best employee Revco had ever seen. I would personally increase the stock of the company while climbing the corporate ladder. I wanted to give my patients lots of attention as I managed their medications and conditions. I was going to make them healthy and maybe make them laugh a little bit along the way.

Well . . . here I am, 13 years older and wiser. Let's see how I have fared. First, some of you may not even remember a company named Revco. (I promise you that Revco's demise was not my fault.) Secondly, I was able to climb a little bit of the corporate ladder but then decided to climb back down after a short run as a chain pharmacy district manager. Lastly, the one thing that I did accomplish is to know that I made a positive impact in my patients' lives.

What I have learned is that you don't necessarily add value to your relationships by accomplishing what you set out to accomplish. To truly add value to those relationships, you must be open-minded, flexible and willing to accomplish what you are meant to accomplish. Not all of my career or life decisions were the correct decisions. But, I didn't realize it at the time; I can only see it in retrospect. The one constant, however, is that I feel most valuable when I am doing what I was meant to do.

Reflect on your colleagues. I am sure you were valuable when you covered your partner's weekend shift so that she could attend her brother's wedding. You were valuable when you stayed after close to fill the eight new hospital discharge prescriptions for the patients who had no idea what new medicines they were to be taking. You were valuable whenever you came to work early or stayed late, for no extra pay, but to make the day smoother for everyone.

Now, find your value in this- You know the gratitude of your patients and their caregivers. You know the satisfaction of improving patient outcomes. You have the opportunity to provide information and empathy. How valuable we are when we are doing what we were meant to do!

Personally, I feel valuable when my wife is proud of something I have done. I feel like a celebrity when I make the time to eat lunch at my daughters' elementary school. Abby and Rachel will glow and grin as they tell their friends that I am their Daddy. I feel like a super hero when my 3-year-old twin boys attack me at the door as I come home from work. Nate and Ben just yell and tackle me (or each other) just because Daddy's home.

Adding value to any role you have is rewarding. We need to examine what we do and see if we are adding value. Look for opportunities to serve in your community or your church. Volunteer in the local free clinic. Coach youth sports. You will find talents that you never planned on having. Volunteer to be a preceptor for the College of Pharmacy. You can impact pharmacy's future and help our alma mater. If you are willing to give a little more of yourself, your value will multiply. I guarantee that you won't be disappointed.

Neil Wohlford ('95)

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Sheila Roberson, Alumni Director • [roberson@rx.uga.edu](mailto:roberson@rx.uga.edu) • 706-542-5303

## 1970s

**Robert Bowles, Jr., ('70)** of Thomaston was named the new president of the Georgia Pharmacy Association.

**John D. Evans ('74)** of Iva, S.C., is retired and is restoring the family home of his aunt, Iva Cook Bryson. His dad, **Ernest W. Evans ('67)** sold the family business to **James Seabolt ('71)**, who later sold it to **Lance Boles ('99)**. His grandfather, C.D. Evans, graduated in 1921 from the Atlanta College of Pharmacy where he was senior class president. His sister, Elaine, who got a pharmacy degree from the University of South Carolina died in 1997 and brother Craig, an M.D., graduated from USC in pharmacy in 1968. His former wife Sally lives in Greenwood, S.C. and neither have re-married. Daughter Mary Herndon Evans Pace is married to Joseph Pace, a gunnery sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps; they have two daughters, Hannah Rutledge and Elizabeth Ligon Pace. He enjoys the South Carolina Genealogical Society, Rev IVA civic improvement association, Preservation and Historical Society, and the Huguenot Society of South Carolina. He started piano lessons four years ago from the same teacher who gave him lessons in the third grade and bought a Steinway studio model; he is learning Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue for his recital.

**Ann Hansford ('76), Melissa Sellars ('85) and Christa Bailey ('91)** work at Athens Infusion & Pharmacy in Athens. Since 1991 the specialty pharmacy has provided advanced medication packaging systems to individuals in assisted living homes and personal care homes, and delivered IV medications and supplies to patients' homes.

**Ananth Shenoy (Ph.D. '78)** of Bellevue, Wash., is regional scientific associate director in the U.S. Clinical Development/Medical Affairs division of Novartis Pharmaceutical Corporation. He earned his Ph.D. degree in pharmacology and then completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Illinois State Psychiatric Institute. He then took a position at the University of Utah, working with Ewart Swinyard, editor of Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences. He also worked at SmithKline French and then at Novartis Pharmaceuticals, where he selects and recruits clinical trial researchers for the Northwest and Alaska.

**D. Conrad Harper, M.D., ('79)** has had a private physician's practice in internal medicine in Douglas for the past five years. He and his wife Lisa have a son, Dustin, who will be a senior at UGA. He enjoys exercise, reading, downhill skiing, sports and time with family and friends.

## Distinguished Alumnus 2008

**Susan McMillan Kane ('93)** of Jacksonville, Florida, has been named the Distinguished Alumnus of the College of Pharmacy for 2008.

Susan has been an active and enthusiastic supporter of the College since her graduation, giving generously of her time and resources. She has been a member of the Alumni Council since 1998 and was president in 2002 and has been a regular participant at White Coat Day, the Pinning Ceremony and Homecoming. She has also served on the VisionPlus Board since 2000 and is a Presidents Club member, a Heritage Society member and founder of the Susan McMillan Kane Professional Enhancement Fund.

She has also been active in the Georgia Pharmacy Association, as a member of the Board of Directors, chair of the Committee on Student and Academic Affairs and member of the Government Affairs Committee, the Public Affairs Committee, the Student Track Programming Committee for the GPhA Convention Planning Committee, the Membership Committee and the Team GPhA Membership Drive. She has been president and member of the Board of Directors of the Academy of Employee Pharmacists, a PharmPAC Supporter and a GPhA/APhA career exhibitor.

She was named Academy of Employee Pharmacists Outstanding Member of the Year for 2000 and GPhA Distinguished Young Pharmacist for 2002.

During college she was president of the Academy of Student Pharmacists, president and vice president of Lambda Kappa Sigma and an active member of Phi Lambda Sigma. After graduation she became a pharmacist with Publix Supermarkets, serving in various capacities including her current position as pharmacy manager, pharmacy territory pharmacy supervisor from 1999-2007 and liaison with three pharmacy schools. She is a member of the American Pharmacy Association's certified Train the Trainer Immunization Program and is certified in immunizations, cholesterol screening and bone density screening.

Susan will be Grand Marshal for the College's commencement on May 2, 2009.



**Susan Kane ('93) receives the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Dean Svein Øie at the Homecoming celebration.**

## 1980s

**Buddy Carter ('80)** of Pooler is serving his second term in the state House of Representatives, and will seek a third term this year. Former Pooler mayor and councilman, he is a member of the Appropriations, Economic Development and Tourism, and Industrial Relations committees, and secretary of the Health and Human Resources Committee.

**Alan McHan ('86)** of Calhoun graduated from MCG in 1993 and has a family dentistry practice. He and his wife Laurie have three children, Abby, 13, Matt, 11, and Anna, 9. He

enjoys UGA sports, golf and coaching youth sports.

**Michael Farmer ('87)** of Winder received the Bowl of Hygeia award from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals during the Georgia Pharmacy Association convention.

**Moji Adeyeye (Ph.D. '88)**, professor of pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical technology at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, recently received the Fellow Award in Pharmaceutical Technology from the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists.

## 1990s

**Leslie Anne Taylor Hausser ('93)** of Midlothian, Va., is president of MEEMS, Inc., a freelance medical education company providing pharmacy consulting, medical education and health care training. She is a member of the Dean's Advisory Council at Auburn University Hamson School of Pharmacy. She and her husband Wayne have three children, Tallie, 11, Preston, 9, and Benton, 7. She likes to travel, read and participate in outdoor activities.

**Pam Ewing ('93)** of Tifton is a staff pharmacist with Tift Regional Medical Center. She has three children, Tanner, 10, Logan, 8, and Ailie, 2.

**J.H. "Tripp" Morgan III ('97)** of Albany has completed a fellowship in vascular surgery at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Penn. In July he opened Albany Vascular Specialist Center. He and his wife Mary Helen have four children, Mary Brice, Joe, Ellie and Marjorie.

**Temitope Soares ('99)** of Houston earned his medical degree in dermatology at the

Medical College of Georgia and completed a residency at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona. He now practices in Houston.

## 2000s

**Cassandra Cobo ('03)** of Mandela Springs, Md., is pharmacist in charge and pharmacy manager with Omnicare in Salisbury. She and David Dayton married in September 2007. She enjoys fishing, crabbing, traveling and spending time with her family.

**Kelli Owens ('03)** gave birth to a son on December 27, 2007.

**Erica Bowles ('04)** of Dublin works with Gayco Healthcare, a long-term care pharmacy. She and her husband Brian had their first child, Hayden, on January 22, 2008.

**Bethany Lynch ('04)** of Augusta works as a NICU clinical pharmacist at MCG. She and her husband Lee have a son, Kai Alexander, born on December 30, 2007.

**Katie Willingham Adkisson ('05)** of Marietta is a staff pharmacist with Target Pharmacy in Hiram. She and her husband

have a son, Elijah John, born on September 1, 2007.

**Amanda Moon ('06)** of Monroe is a staff pharmacist with Target Pharmacy in Monroe. Her husband Collier is a third-year pharmacy student. Their first child, John Collier, was born on April 18, 2008, weighing 7 lbs., 12 oz. and measuring 20 inches long. She enjoys gardening and backpacking.



**Rebecca Williams Stenbridge ('06)** of Americus is a staff pharmacist with Winn-Dixie Pharmacy. Her husband Milton is a supervisor with Osmose Utility Service. They have a daughter, Grace Elizabeth, 2, and twins, Leila Faye and Emma Claire, born on April 3, 2008.

**Kimberly Comstock Wood ('06)** of Atlanta works for Georgia Pharmacy Company as a long-term care consultant in the metro Atlanta/middle Georgia area. She and her husband Nathan ('04 UGA) were married in July 2006. He finished his law degree this

## Kudos for Generous Gifts from Alumni and Friends

### Walt Rogers Community Pharmacy Practice Fund

Thanks to the continued support and dedication by 1984 graduate Walt J. Rogers, the Walt Rogers Community Pharmacy Practice Fund has been created to help with the costs of travel accommodations, specialty training, and wellness programs for faculty and students. As President of the College of Pharmacy Alumni Association for 2007-08, Walt knows first hand how much alumni donations can really affect the student experience. "As you progress, you realize the impact that education has had on your career. Giving back is the least you can do," he says.

### Jun Family Achievement Scholarship Fund

We thank the Jun Family for a recent donation to the Jun Family Achievement Scholarship Fund, which was established in 2005 after Dr. Won Jun's retirement from the College faculty as a professor in Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences. Through the overwhelming generosity of the Jun family, this endowment continues to grow every year and has truly become a lasting legacy here at the College of Pharmacy.

### William F. "Dobby" Nathaniel Distinguished Student Scholarship Fund

William F. Nathaniel ('55), or "Dobby" to his friends, was a great pharmacist and a great man, who passed away October 11, 2007. After serving in the U.S. Army for two years, he attended the College of Pharmacy and went on to work for Hoffman-LaRoche and later Geigy. Throughout his lifetime, Dobby always attributed his success to the College of Pharmacy. "It allowed me to earn a good living," Dobby would say. "Pharmacy is a good career and you are repaid for your hard work."

Dobby was featured in the summer 2004 issue of the Georgia Pharmacist Quarterly after he decided to create the endowed William F. "Dobby" Nathaniel Distinguished Student Scholarship as a deferred gift. This fund was created to benefit deserving students who, according to Dobby, "just need a little help getting through school." Earlier this year, his legacy was truly realized as a portion of his estate was used to inaugurate his scholarship fund.

Through the creation of the William F. "Dobby" Nathaniel Distinguished Student Scholarship, Dobby ensured a lasting legacy of supporting the College of Pharmacy and its students, for which we can all be grateful.

spring and began working for an Atlanta law firm in the fall. They enjoy taking their Boston terrier, Spike, to the dog park.

## Wedding Bells

**Misty Donaldson ('01)** of Rome married Kofi Appeagyei-Boachie in Atlanta on April 5, 2008. She is a clinical pharmacy coordinator; he is an AT&T network engineer, graduating from the University of Ghana and from Kennesaw State University. They plan to live in Atlanta.

**Matthew Lee Clifton ('04)** of Moultrie married Christine Foreman, also of Moultrie, in March 2007. He is employed by Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital as a clinical pharmacist, and she is a dental hygienist.

**Laura Susan Darnell ('06)** of Macon married William Springer Cain on December 2005. She is employed at University

Hospital in Augusta; he is a UGA Business Management graduate working at Augusta First Bank and Trust.

## In Memoriam

**Thomas Carlton Crumbley ('62)** of Savannah passed away on April 20, 2008. He graduated from Georgia Military Academy and earned a degree in engineering from Georgia Tech, prior to attending pharmacy school at UGA. He served as president of Crumbley's Pharmacies, Inc., and practiced for many years. He served in the Korean War, was a licensed pilot and a member of the Savannah Jaycees, Savannah Yacht Club and Savannah Pharmacy Association.

**Roy Thomas Sr. ('64)** of Savannah passed away in January 2007. He worked for Wachtell's Prescription Shop, was owner of Solomon's Pharmacy and a staff pharmacist

with Memorial Medical Center. He served as president of the Savannah Pharmaceutical Association and was an officer in the Georgia Pharmacy Association. He was also active in civic and church groups.

**Nancy Brian Walens ('82)** of Ann Arbor passed away on December 23, 2006, after an 18-month fight with breast cancer. She is survived by her husband and two daughters.

**Robert David Anderson ('97)** of Atlanta passed away on January 8, 2008. He was a former manager with Wal-Mart. He enjoyed playing keyboard and guitar, camping and hiking. He is survived by his wife and daughter.

**Suzanne Slaughter-Ross ('00)** of Athens passed away on June 4, 2008. She had worked as a pharmacist with Rite Aid in Athens and in Monroe. She is survived by her husband, step-daughter and parents.

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## LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Please take a minute to fill out this questionnaire and return it to the Editor, College of Pharmacy, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. Many of our alumni have inquired about former classmates, so we are trying to keep current information available.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DEGREE and YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION (Employer Name and Address, Job Title, Duties...) \_\_\_\_\_

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AWARDS AND HONORS \_\_\_\_\_

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FAMILY INFORMATION (Spouse's Name. Is Spouse a UGA Grad? Is Spouse also a Pharmacist? Any Children?) \_\_\_\_\_

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INTERESTS AND HOBBIES \_\_\_\_\_

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